

Appl. No. 10/600,308
Amdt. dated August 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 4, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3 and 46 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 2, 4-6, 11, 13, 21, 26 and 28 have been amended, so that claims 2, 4-45, and 47-53 are presently pending. Claims 5, 26, 29, and 38 are independent.

In the Office Action dated March 4, 2005, claims 5 and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As suggested in the Action, claims 5 and 26 have been rewritten in independent form and should therefore be in condition for allowance. Amended claims 2, 4, 6, 11, 13 and 21, and claims 7-10, 12, 14-20, and 22-25 depend directly or indirectly from claim 5, and amended claim 28 depends from claim 26. Accordingly, dependent claims 2, 4, 6-25, and 27-28 should also be in condition for allowance.

Applicant wishes to express its appreciation for the indication of allowance for claims 29-45 and 47-53.

Therefore, the present application should now be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (800) 445-3460.

A 2-month Petition for Extension of Time accompanies this Amendment, along with authorization to charge \$225.00 to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0522 for the petition

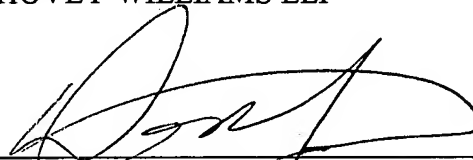
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fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0522 in the amount of \$100.00 for the one (1) additional independent claim. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

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